

District 25 News

MAKIKI, TANTALUS, MCCULLY, PAPAOLEA

JUNE/JULY 2009



Dear Friends & Neighbors,

The untimely passing of Councilmember Duke Bainum weighs heavily on the hearts of many in our community who knew and respected this dedicated public servant.

While many words of praise and remembrance have been spoken and noted in recent weeks, the true legacy of Duke lies in the community and people he worked so hard for—and in the beautiful children and family he has left behind.

Four days after his unexpected passing, several of Duke's staff members and over 50 residents from communities represented by Duke gathered at the Aloha Aina Community Clean-Up to remember Duke and his legacy. More importantly, this group gathered to serve the community, in the way that Duke modeled so well for all those he represented. May we continue to serve one another—as this is Duke's true legacy.

Me ke aloha,

Della Au Belatti
State Representative, District 25

Above photo—STEVENSON MIDDLE SCHOOL (June 13, 2009)—Volunteers gather for a group “shaka” to start off a productive day cleaning up and recycling for the Makiki/McCully/Moiliili/Manoa/Kaimuki communities. Mahalo to the volunteers, recycling companies, businesses, and legislators who made this day possible. Many mahalos also to Councilmember Duke Bainum—an early and consistent supporter of efforts to beautify our communities and protect Hawaii's precious environment and resources.

The Shortlist

Local Grown Evening Farmers' Market @ St. Clement's Church

Walk, run, bike, or bus to Makiki's first evening farmers' market. Conveniently located at the corner of Wilder Avenue & Makiki Street, St. Clement's is partnering with the Makiki Community Library to bring fresh produce, delicious local grinds, mellow entertainment & more to our neighborhood. For more information, read page 4 article or call 955-7745.

THURSDAY, JULY 9 @ 4:30-7:30 pm
THURSDAY, JULY 23 @ 4:30-7:30 pm

Rediscover Makiki: Sunset in the Park @ Makiki District Park

Two-day festival celebrating Makiki: Join us for live entertainment, keiki rides, Makiki Community Library tours & used book sale, Hui o Makiki Citizen Resource Center, ono food booths, urban art activities, movies in the park, and more. Questions? Call 586-9425.

FRIDAY, JULY 24 @ 4-10 pm
SATURDAY, JULY 25 @ 10 am-10 pm

Special Vote-by-Mail Election to be Conducted to Fill Vacancy

A special election will be held for voters of District V, which includes a portion of Makiki, to elect a successor to fill the vacancy left by Councilmember Duke Bainum. The election will be conducted entirely as a "Vote by Mail" election that ends on Friday, August 7, 2009.

Ballots will be mailed approximately 20 days prior to the election. Voted ballots must be received by the City Clerk no later than 6 pm, August 7, 2009, in the return envelopes provided.

Walk-in early voting and absentee walk-in voting will also be conducted from Thursday, July 23, 2009 to Wednesday, August 5, 2009.

Voters may register to vote in person on Oahu at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 530 South King Street, 100, or at the State of Hawaii Office of Elections, 802 Lehua Avenue in Pearl City.

As of June 25, 2009, the following 14 candidates filed to run for the council seat: Heidi Bornhorst, Michael Cain, Wendell S.L. Ching, Gladys Hayes, Nathaniel Kinney, Ann Kobayashi, Philmund Lee, Matt Matsunaga, Keolu Peralto, James Quimby, Phillip Rockwell, Jacques "Butch" Sims, George Waialeale, and Earl Winfree.

Candidate forums are scheduled to be planned for this election contest. As the dates and places have not yet been confirmed, please stay tuned for announcement about these candidate forums.

Questions? More information and "Frequently Asked Questions" are available on the City & County of Honolulu: Elections Division website at www.honoluluelections.org. Questions can also be answered by the Elections Division Office, City Hall, 530 South King Street, Room 100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813.

2009 Bills on the Veto List?



On June 30, 2009, Governor Linda Lingle must give 10-days notice to the Legislature of any bills she intends to veto. On July 15, 2009, the Governor will have the option to sign or veto these bills. Any bill not signed or vetoed will automatically become law without the Governor's signature. The Legislature, then, has the opportunity to convene and override any of the Governor's vetoes with 2/3 of the votes in both the House and the Senate.

Four bills are noteworthy and may possibly appear on the Governor's veto list:

- House Bill 128, Conference Draft 2 (Campaign Finance Bill): Increases the percentage limit on contributions by non-residents from 20% to 30%; Relaxes the limitation on contribution by contractors with the State by subjecting the limitation to contributions by non-bid contractors only; and Allows campaign funds to be used for donations to public schools or public libraries, subject to limitations.
- House Bill 1405, Conference Draft 1 (Nexus Bill for Internet Sales): Creates a nexus standard for taxing out-of-state businesses and enables the State to tax business activity in Hawaii conducted by out-of-state business that enter into agreements with Hawaii residents where the out-of-state business pays a commission for referral of potential customers.
- Senate Bill 199, Conference Draft 2 (High-Tech Tax Credit Bill): Limits claims for the High Tech Business Investment Tax Credit and the Technology Infrastructure Renovation Tax Credit to 80% of the taxpayer's liability for the taxable year in which the credit is claimed for certain taxable years.
- Senate Bill 1350, Conference Draft 1 (Kakaako Reserved Housing): Establishes reserved housing requirements of 20% for residential development and 10% for commercial lots 20,000 to 79,999 square feet; Sets reserved housing requirements of 30% and 20% for residential and commercial development, respectively, for lots 80,000 square feet or greater; and Allows the transfer of excess housing credits to another project in the Kakaako Community Development District.

Representative Belatti voted against these bills upon final passage by the Legislature in May 2009. Should these or any other bills appear on the Governor's veto list, Representative Belatti seeks the community's input on whether the Legislature should override a veto.

If you would like to weigh in on any of these or other bills, whether to support or oppose a veto by the Governor or a veto override by the Legislature, please contact Representative Belatti at repbelatti@capitol.hawaii.gov or at 586-9425 with your comments and concerns.

In Memoriam: Mark Edmund “Duke” Bainum

By Representative Della Au Belatti

On June 9, 2009, District 25 and Hawaii lost a dedicated public servant with the passing of Councilmember Duke Bainum. Many mourn his passing, but many more remember the commitment with which he served and the leadership and support he provided in helping our communities.

Born on July 21, 1952, Mark Edmund “Duke” Bainum was raised in Bonnerdale, Arkansas by parents Irvin and Evea, hard-working ordinary people who dreamed of the best for their children and worked to make those dreams come true. In 1955, Duke’s parents pooled their family resources and built a motel that would grow into other successful businesses. From his father, Duke learned the lesson that success was not simply making a profit but that “if you’ve been blessed you’ve got to give back and make a difference.”

Hawaii would be the ultimate benefactor of these early lessons when Duke went on to become a doctor and a surgical resident at the John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawaii in 1980.

After a medical mission trip to Nepal during his second year of residency, Duke was inspired to be more than just a doctor. He returned to Hawaii with a passion for public service. Starting as a volunteer with the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce and becoming involved with efforts to clean the Ala Wai Canal, Duke later entered the political arena as a member of the Ala Moana/Kakaako Neighborhood Board.



MAKIKI COMMUNITY LIBRARY (Mar. 25, 2009): Norma Koenig, Kahu Keahi Renaud, Jeanette Koga-Horen, Joyce Fasi, Representative Della Au Belatti, & Duke share a reflective moment at the Library’s Grand Re-Opening Ceremony. Photo by Ron Paik.



MAKIKI COMMUNITY LIBRARY (Mar. 25, 2009): Hui o Makiki President Jeanette Koga-Horen, MCL VP Marcia Kemble, Duke, MCL President Norma Koenig, and Representative Della Au Belatti, are all smiles at Fasi Citizen Center dedication. Photo by Michael Belatti.

From there, Duke’s ascension through local politics would take him from the State House of Representatives in 1990, and later to the Honolulu City Council in 1994. After an unsuccessful bid for the mayor’s office, Duke returned to the City Council in 2009.

Perhaps more than his passion for public service, Duke had an obvious love and passion for his family. Whether it was attending an Easter Egg hunt at the Makiki District Park or enjoying bon dances with his wife and sons, one could tell that family was at the center of this caring man’s life.

In the short time that I worked with Duke for the people of Makiki, he exemplified all that it means to be a public servant. He was always the first to offer help and advice, and I knew that his door was always open to me to talk about ways that we could do better for the people we represented. As a role model and a colleague, he will be missed.

Stated simply by George Lee, parishioner at St. Clement’s, “Duke Bainum’s death is a loss to the entire community... ‘Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon him. May his soul, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.’”

“Leaders must not only be true,
they must also care.”

- Councilmember Duke Bainum, 1952-2009

Makiki's 1st Evening Farmers' Market: Coming to a Corner Near You

Whether you're an advocate of all things organic, committed to buying local, or just looking for something cool to check out, the flourishing local farmers' market community could be your ticket to delicious, economical and eco-friendly produce.

Attending a farmers' market in Makiki has now gotten easier with the first-ever evening farmers' market scheduled for Thursday, July 9th and July 23rd at the Parish of St. Clement's at 1515 Wilder Avenue, from 4:30-7:30 pm. Parking is very limited, so walk, run, bike, or bus down to the market.

Why Buy Local Produce?

Farmers' markets in Hawaii continue to grow in popularity, and for good reason. Much of the produce found in standard supermarkets come from farms thousands of miles away, and is grown by corporate farms using a variety of different chemicals to preserve the quality of produce for the long journey it takes to make it to our island state.

By comparison, the food offered at Hawaii's vibrant farmers' markets is often locally-grown by small farmers and harvested when produce is at its freshest and ripest point. Due to the close proximity to consumers, the chemicals required to preserve the crops, the money required to transport them, and the amount of time produce sits around before making it to your table are reduced considerably.

This means the local produce you find at farmers' markets are more delicious, fresher, healthier, and cheaper. On top of this, when you buy local, you support our island farmers, the local economy, and the 'aina by helping to preserve land use diversity and maintain Hawaii's rich agricultural heritage.

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To comment on something written in *District 25 News* or to request regular e-delivery, please write to:

Representative Della Au Belatti
State Capitol, Room 331
Honolulu, HI 96813
repbelatti@capitol.hawaii.gov

An electronic copy may be downloaded from the Representative's House Majority web page at http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hsemaj/.belatti_della.html. E-newsletters are posted after the paper version is mailed.



The Parish of St. Clement's (1515 Wilder Avenue at the corner of Wilder Avenue & Makiki Street)—Site of Makiki's 1st Evening Farmers' Market, July 9th & July 23rd.

Come & Taste the Difference at Makiki's 1st Local Grown Evening Farmers' Market:

• Locally Grown Produce & Plants

Featured farms include *Fresh from the Farm*, *Pupukea Gardens*, *Ma'o Organic*, & more! You'll find greens, tomatoes, cucumbers, kale, corn, & a wide variety of fruits including bananas, papaya, lychee, & longon depending on the season.

• Locally Produced, Value-Added Goods

Small businesses including *Auntie Nani's Cookies*, *Don's Fudge*, & *Land of Organica* have been invited to provide value-added goods to satisfy any sweet tooth.

• Local, Healthy Grinds to Satisfy Any Appetite!

In addition to stocking up on fresh produce, stop by at the Makiki Evening Farmers' Market to sample tasty foods cooked by *The Hawaiian Chef*, *CJ's Salsa*, *Grandma G's*, *Stacy's Laulau Co.* & others.

• Partnering with Makiki Community Library

This exciting pilot project is a collaboration between St. Clement's Church and the Makiki Community Library. Market organizers' goals include providing Makiki residents with access to locally grown produce, supporting local businesses, and fostering a greater sense of community in our densely populated urban landscape by supporting the community outreach of organizations like the Makiki Community Library.

If you'd like to see an evening farmers' market thrive in Makiki, market organizers hope you will join them at St. Clement's on July 9th & July 23rd. See you there!